Docket No.: 2296009US Preliminary Amendment

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, lines 1-13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The powder of a layered lithium-nickel-manganese-cobalt composite oxide of the invention, which is for use as a positive-electrode material for lithium secondary battery, preferably is one having a composition represented by the following formula (II), having a volume resistivity of  $5\times10^5~\Omega$ ·cm or lower in the state of being compacted at a pressure of 40 MPa, and having a value of C/S, wherein C is the concentration of carbon contained therein (% by weight) and S is the BET specific surface area thereof (m²/g), of 0.025 or smaller:

$$Li_{1+z}Ni_xMn_yCo_{1-x-y}O_2$$
 (II)

(wherein  $[0 \le z \le 0.15] 0 \le z \le 0.15$ ,  $0.20 \le x \le 0.55$ ,  $0.20 \le y \le 0.55$ , and  $0.50 \le x + y \le 1$ ).

Please replace the paragraph at page 72, lines 4-15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Weighed amounts of raw materials consisting of 75% by weight each of the layered lithium-nickel-manganese-cobalt composite oxide powders produced in Examples 1 to 3 and Comparative Examples 1 to [[3]] 4, 20% by weight acetylene black, and 5% by weight polytetrafluoroethylene powder were sufficiently mixed together by means of a mortar. This mixture was formed into a thin sheet, and a piece was punched out of this sheet with a 9-mm¢ punch. The sheet formation was conducted so that the disk piece had an overall weight of about 8 mg. This disk piece was press-bonded to an expanded aluminum metal to obtain a 9-mm¢ positive electrode.

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Please replace the paragraph at page 73, lines 2-9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The coin cell obtained was subjected to charge/discharge at a constant current of 0.2 mA/cm<sup>2</sup>, an upper-limit charge voltage of 4.3 V, and a lower-limit discharge voltage of 3.0 V. The charge/discharge capacities (mAh/g) in this operation were measured, and the results thereof are shown in Table [[1-]]2. As a criterion for acceptance judgment in the Examples was used a discharge capacity value of 160 mAh/g or higher.

Please replace the paragraph at page 73, lines 12-24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Weighed amounts of raw materials consisting of 75% by weight each of the layered lithium-nickel-manganese-cobalt composite oxide powders produced in Examples 1 to 3 and Comparative Examples 1 to [[3]] 4, 20% by weight acetylene black, and 5% by weight polytetrafluoroethylene powder were sufficiently mixed together by means of a mortar. This mixture was formed into a thin sheet, and pieces were punched out of this sheet with a 9-mmφ punch and a 12-mmφ punch. The sheet formation was conducted so that the disk pieces had overall weights of about 8 mg and about 18 mg, respectively. These disk pieces were press-bonded to an expanded aluminum metal to obtain 9-mmφ and 12-mmφ positive electrodes.

Please replace the paragraph at page 78, lines 3-11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In Tables 1 and 2 are shown the found values of resistance in the cells which respectively employed the layered lithium-nickel-manganese-cobalt composite oxides of Examples 1 to 3 and Comparative Examples 1 to [[3]] 4 as positive-electrode active

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materials. The smaller the value of resistance, the better the low-temperature load characteristics. As a criterion for acceptance judgment in the Examples was used a resistance value of  $400~\Omega$  or lower.